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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/597,872	03/28/2007	Yim-Bun Patrick Kwan	72261.48	7328

7590 09/04/2008  
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EXAMINER
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JONES, JAMES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2873

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/04/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/597,872	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KWAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> JAMES C. JONES	<b>Art Unit</b> 2873	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 August 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/10/2006</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10597872 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement has been considered by the examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

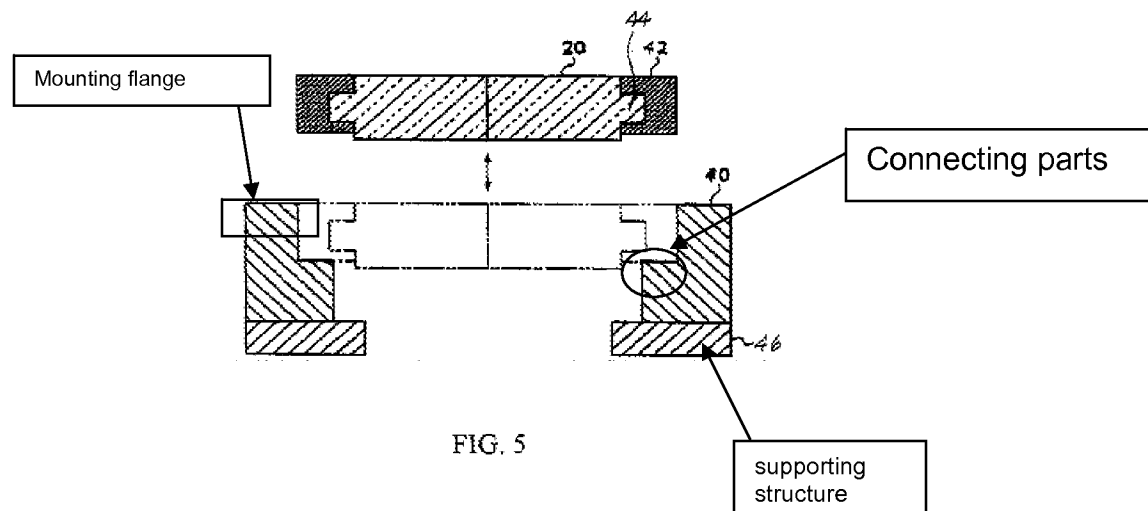
Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oshino (20030162484) hereafter '484.

'484 discloses the limitations therein including the following:

Regarding claim 1 '484 discloses a housing structure for mounting optical elements (fig. 2a, 2b, and fig. 5 "40" as the housing structure) in particular of a projection lens housing in a projection exposure system for manufacturing semiconductor elements (fig. 1, par. [0032]-[0035]), wherein attachment locations, with connecting parts, for connection to a supporting structure being provided on structural elements (fig. 5, "46" as the "supporting structure" "40" and "42" as the "connecting parts"), wherein the connecting parts comprise supporting elements with mounting

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flanges for connection to the supporting structure (fig. 5 "40" as the "mounting flange"), and wherein the supporting elements are connected to the structural elements in such a way that supporting forces, in particular weight forces, are taken up essentially by pressure forces and shear forces (fig. 5).



Regarding claim 2 '484 discloses a housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said connections between the structural elements said supporting elements and said associated mounting flange are effected essentially by means of adhesive surfaces (fig. 5, par. [0057]).

Regarding claim 3 '484 discloses Housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said structural elements are made of materials to which the group comprising glass, ceramic and glass ceramic belongs (fig. 5, par. [0053]-[0060]).

Regarding claim 4 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said supporting elements comprise the metal supporting element.

Regarding claim 5 '484 discloses a housing structure according to claim 1, wherein at least three supporting elements, distributed over the periphery, act on said

structural elements (fig. 2 (a) and 5).

Regarding claim 6 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 5, wherein said supporting elements act on an at least approximately centrally arranged structure reinforcing plate (fig. 2A and 5).

Regarding claim 7 '484 discloses the Housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said supporting elements each have at least approximately an L-shape with a mounting flange (fig. 5).

Regarding claim 8 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 7, wherein said associated structural element lies on a horizontal leg of said L-shape and in that the vertical leg of the L-shape lies against the external periphery of said structural element said mounting flange adjoining the vertical leg of the L-shape in at least approximately the horizontal direction (fig. 5, par. [0039]-[0040]).

Regarding claim 9 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 8, wherein adhesive surfaces are arranged between said two legs of the L-shape of said supporting element and said associated structural element (fig. 5).

Regarding claim 10 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 7, wherein said structural element is, in the region of the horizontal leg of the L-shape, provided with a through-bore, through which a prestressed screw is passed and connected to the horizontal leg of the L-shape (fig. 6).

Regarding claim 11 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 7, wherein said structural element is, in the region of said vertical leg of the L-shape, provided with a through-bore, through which a prestressed screw is passed and by

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means of which said vertical legs of the L-shape is connected to said structural element (fig. 4).

Regarding claim 12 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said supporting elements each have a U-shape seen in cross section, from which said mounting flange branches off, said associated structural element being received between said two U-legs (fig. 5).

Regarding claim 13 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 12, wherein said structural element is provided with a through-bore, through which a screw is passed, which is connected to said two U-legs of said supporting element in such a way that the two U-legs exert a prestressing force on said structural element.

Regarding claim 14 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 1, wherein said supporting element comprises two clamping plates arranged at a distance from one another, between which said associated structural element is received, a peripheral plate running parallel to the outer wall of said structural element and a mounting flange connected to said two clamping plates and said peripheral plate (fig. 5).

Regarding claim 15 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 14, wherein said mounting flange has at least approximately a T-shape, one T-leg forming said mounting flange, and connecting elements, connecting said two clamping plates and said peripheral plate to said mounting flange, being arranged on a leg arranged at right angles to the said leg (fig. 2(a), fig. 5, par. [0039]-[0049]).

Regarding claim 16 '4894 discloses the housing structure according to claim 15, wherein said connecting elements are designed as screws with spring elements (fig. 6).

Regarding claim 17 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 14, wherein adhesive surfaces are arranged between said clamping plates, said peripheral plate and said structural element (fig. 5, par. [0057]).

Regarding claim 18 '484 discloses the housing structure according to claim 14, wherein said two clamping plates are provided with screws, which are screwed into said structural element in such a way that a prestress is exerted on said adhesive surfaces (fig. 2, fig. 5, par. [0057]).

### ***Conclusion***

Watson (20030234918) and Yoshida (6825998) are being cited herein to show a reference that discloses some similar features to that of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES C. JONES whose telephone number is (571)270-1278. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. est. time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Mack can be reached on (571) 272-2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James C. Jones/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2873  
9/2/2008

/Ricky L. Mack/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2873